THE NECESSITY OF SETLING THE Crown of England.

WITHOUT making particular remarks upon what I am about to acquaint the *Reader* with, which is bare matter of Fact, or any application thereof to our present circumstances, as supposing the design of this Paper obvious to all Men's understandings at the first view; I shall in the first place, relate some of those considerations, that induced the whole Parliament in the Twenty eighth year of Queen *Elizabeth*'s Reign to Petition the Queen, That Sentence of Death, which had been given against *Mary* Queen of *Scots*, might be put in Execution; And *Secondly*, I shall represent how the Succession to the Crown of *England* now stands, and into what Families it is likely to come, if care be not taken thereof in this present Convention.

The Parliament in the Twenty eighth of *Elizabeth*, was Summon'd

and Assembled upon no other cause, or ground, than the timely, and strange Discovery of that bloody, and treacherous Treason Plotted by *Babington*, and others, for the without taking away of her Majesty's Life, of which *Mary* Queen of *Scots* had been first by a most Just and Honourable Trial fully Convicted, and afterwards judicially pronounced to have been in a high nature Guilty. But yet her Majesty not being satisfied with her so just Tryal and Attaindure, Assembled the *Parliament* on purpose, that so all those former Proceedings, how just soever, might be further committed and referred to the impartial Examination, and Final Judgment of the whole Realm.

Both Houses of Parliament unanimously voted the Sentence to be just, true and Honourable, and Petition'd the Queen that Execution might be done; for that they could find no other way to secure her Majesty's safety, and that of these Realms.

The Reasons upon which they grounded their Petition, I shall put down, as succinctly as I can, out of Sir Simon *D'Ewes*'s Journal Queen *Elizabeth*'s Parliaments; and they are as follow, *viz.*

For that they had a long time, to their intolerable grief, seen by how manifold, most dangerous and execrable practices, the said Queen of *Scots* had compassed the destruction of her Majesty's person, thereby not only to bereave them of the sincere and true Religion of Almighty God, bringing them and this Noble Crown back again into the Thraldom of the *Romish* Tyranny, but also utterly to ruinate and overthrow the happy State and Common-weal of this most Noble Realm: to banish and destroy the Professors and Professing of the true Religion of Jesus Christ, and the ancient Nobility of this Land, and to bring this whole State and Common-weal to Foreign Subjection, and to utter ruine and confusion: which malicious purposes would never cease to be prosecuted by all possible

possible means, so long as the said Queens Confederats, her Ministers, and Favourers had their eyes and imaginations fixed upon the said Queen, the only ground of their unreasonable hopes and conceits, and the only seed-plot of all dangerous and traiterous Devices and Practices against her Majesties Sacred Person. And for that upon Advised and great Consultation they could not find any possible means to provide for her Majesties safety, but by the just and speedy Execution of the said Queen, the neglecting whereof might procure the heavy displeasure and punishment of Almighty God, as by sundry severe Examples of his great Justice in that behalf left us in Sacred Scripture, doth appear; and that if the same were not put in Execution, they should thereby (so far as man's reason could reach) be brought into utter despair of the continuance amongst them of the true Religion of Almighty God, and of her Majesties Life, and of the safety of all her Subjects, and of the good estate of this Flourishing Common-weal.

For that she (the said Queen of *Scots*) had continually breathed the overthrow and suppression of the *Protestant Religion*, being poysoned with *Popery* from her tender Youth, and at her Age joyning in that falle termed *Holy-League*, and had been ever since, and was then a professed Enemy of the Truth.

For, that she rested wholly upon *Popish* hopes, to be delivered and advanced, and was so devoted and doted in that Profession, that she would (as well for the satisfaction of others, as for the feeding her own humour) supplant the Gospel where and whensoever she might: Which evil was so much the greater, and the more to be avoided, for that it slayeth the Soul, and would spread it self not only over *England* and *Scotland*, but also into all parts beyond the Sea, where the Gospel of God is maintained; the which cannot but be exceedingly weakned, if defection should be in these two most valiant Kingdoms.

For that if she prevailed, she would rather take the Subjects of *England* for Slaves than for Children.

For that she had already provided them a Foster-father and a Nurse, the *Pope* and the King of *Spain*; into whose hands, if it should happen them to fall, what could they else look for, but ruine, destruction and utter extirpation of Goods, Lands, Lives, Honour and all?

For that, as she had already by her poisoned Baits, brought to destruction more Noblmen and their Houses, and a great multitude of Subjects, during her being here, than she would have done, if she had been in possession of her own Countrey, and Armed in the Field against them; so would she be still continually the cause of the like spoil, to the greater loss and peril of this Estate; and therefore this *Realm* neither could, nor mought endure her.

For that her Sectaries both Wrote and Printed, that the *Protestants* would be at their wit's end, world's end, if she should overlive Queen *Elizabeth*: Meaning thereby, that the end of the *Protestant* world was the beginning of their own; and therefore if she, the said Queen of *Scots*, were taken away, their world would be at an end before its beginning.

For that since the sparing of her in the fourteenth year of Queen *Elizabeth*'s Reign, Popish Traitors, and Recusants had multiplied exceedingly: And if she were now spared again, they would grow both innumerable and invincible also: And therefore mercy in that case would prove cruelty against them all: *Nam est quadam crudelis misericordia*: and therefore to spare her blood, would be to spill all theirs.

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For that God's Vengeance againſt *Saul* for ſparing the life of *Agag*, and againſt *Ahab* for ſparing the life of *Benhadad*, was moſt apparent; for they were by the juſt Judgment of God deprived of their Kingdoms, for ſparing thoſe wicked Princes, whom God had delivered into their hands. And thoſe Magiſtrats were much commended, who put to death thoſe miſchievous and wicked Queens, *Jezebel* and *Athalia*.

How far theſe Reaſons, that then ſwayed with the Lords, both *Spiritual* and *Temporal*, and all the Commons, to Petition the Queen for the Execution of *Mary* Queen of *Scots*, ought in this preſent Conjuncture of Affairs to ſway with the people of *England* againſt any Application to, or coming to any manner of Accommodation with the now withdrawn *King*, will farther appear, if we take a view how the Succeſſion to the Crown of *England* now ſtands, and into what Families we are like to fall, if timely remedy be not carefully applyed.

I ſhall ſay no more of the pretended Prince of *Wales*, than this, That if he be an Impoſture, who ſhall ſecure us againſt having many more ſuch tricks play'd us? If he be not an Impoſture, he ought at leaſt to be delivered into Proteſtant hands, to be Educated in that Religion, which whoever comes to be King or Queen of *England* muſt ſwear to Maintain and Defend: If not, every man is at liberty to imagine, what the Nation may expect from ſuch a Succeſſor.

The next Heir to the *Engliſh* Crown, after the two Princeſſes, and the Prince of *Orange*, was the Princeſs *Henrietta*, King *Charles* the Firſt's Youngeſt Daughter, ſhe was Married to the only Brother of the *French* King, by whom ſhe had Iſſue, two Daughters; the Elder of which is Married to *Charles* the Second of that name, now King of *Spain*, by whom ſhe as yet had no Iſſue.

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The younger Daughter is Married to the Duke of *Savoy*; by whom she hath Children.

The next Heir to the Crown of *England*, is the Princess *Louisa*, only Daughter of *Charles Ludowick*, Prince Palatine, Married to the present Duke of *Orleans*, by whom she hath divers Children.

The next Heir to the Crown of *England*, after the Issue of the present Dutchess of *Orleans*, were three *French* Ladies, Daughters of Prince *Edward*, who was a Younger Son of the Queen of *Bohemia*; the eldest of these is Married to the Duke *d' Enguien*, Eldest Son to the Prince of *Conde*, the other two are dead without Issue.

So that unless the Nation take advantage of this opportunity, now so miraculously put into their hands by Almighty God, of securing to themselves their Religion, and Liberties, and securing the Government in Protestant hands; what can we expect, but to be delivered up in a few years space, to a *Spanish Inquisition*, to *French Dragonings*, to *Massacres*, and all sorts of Persecutions, which the poor Protestants have been harassed with in those Countries, by Princes of an inveterate and hereditary malice to us and our Religion; from whose Families we shall be forced to admit of Successors?

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